Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON.

I am not pressing my point. That is only an objection. The Council can order the Chairman, and the power must be vested in the Council, and the Council can pass resolutions empowering him to take necessary action. That is so in the case of other Regulations.

Dr. A. R. MENON.

Sometimes they give general consent. The Council gives sanction. The Chairman is empowered to carry on all transactions himself, but the Chairman must get the consent of the Council. Under no conditions should the powers of the Chairman be increased. The Chairman should, as far as possible, be placed under the vested powers. So I believe it would be better to give the power to the Council and not to the Chairman.

President.—That section is all right, I hope?

Mr. M. K. RAMAN.

Yes, Sir. The next is the second section. Inverted commas are not necessary.

President.—I do not think that inverted commas are necessary. Is it not so?

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON.

No, not necessary.

President.—We just wanted to put it in proper form.

Mr. K. ACHYUTA MENON.

Sir, I beg to move that the Bill to amend the Cattle Trespass Regulation be taken up and passed at a subsequent meeting of the Council, viz., on Friday, the 11th of December.

Mr. T. K. KRISHNA MENON.

Sir, I second it.

The motion was put to the House by the President and it was carried.

The Criminal Law Amendment Bill.

President.—The next item is the Criminal Law Amendment Bill.

Mr. K. ACHYUTA MENON.

Sir, I beg to move that the Criminal Law Amendment Bil be read in Council.

Mr. T. K. KRISHNA MENON.

Sir, I second it.

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Mr. K. ACHYUTA MENON.

The object of the amendment is to raise the age from 16 to 18. Under the existing rules, the age fixed is 16, and it is thought advisable to raise the age to 18 for greater protection; because the age of minority extends up to 18. The British Law as laid down in the Criminal Procedure Code empowers the District Magistrate to order the restoration of abducted females under the age of 14 years. It is thought advisable to raise it to 16. These are the amendments sought to be introduced by the amending Bill.

The motion was put to the House and agreed to.

Mr. T. K. KRISHNA MENON.

The title of the Bill is "a Bill to amend the Cochin Penal Code, Regulation I of 1059, and the Code of Criminal Procedure, Regulation II of 1086".

Mr. K. ACHYUTA MENON.

As in the case of the previous Bill, the Standing Orders insist on an interval of 15 days to enable me to make a motion for the consideration of the Bill. I formally request you to suspend the rule.

President.—As this is a measure about which there is very little controversy, I do not think there is any harm in suspending the rule. I allow you to proceed with it at once.

Mr. K. ACHYUTA MENON.

I beg to move that the Cochin Criminal Law Amendment Bill may be taken up for consideration at once.

Mr. T. K. KRISHNA MENON.

Sir, I second it.

The motion was then put and agreed to.

President.—I shall now call each clause separately.

Section 1:—Short title and commencement;

Section 2:—

Mr. T. A RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

Section 2. I wish that the law could not be allowed. I move an amendment. Instead of "under 18 years", I want "under any years". Substitute "under any age".

President.—Will you please explain the object of your amendment?

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Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

Here it is said: "if she is sold, when she becomes 18 years". If she is above 18, anybody can sell her. Of course, nobody has any control over us, when we become majors.

President.—Mr. Ramachandra Ayyar, what is the meaning of sale?

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

When sheis above 16 years, she becomes a major.

President.—You say that minority is usually under 16. With reference to this particular clause, it is 18 years.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

Even just before 18 years, she is a minor. For this purpose she will be a minor.

President.—Are we going to legalise it now?

Dr. A. R. MENON.

That is the point. Now you are giving a legal sanction. You are only raising the age. But does the law recognise it? There is a difference between a man running to a place and a woman running, so far as the absence is concerned, and I remember lately a law passed in England making it a criminal concern for any woman to run alone. At the same time, it is not an offence for a man to run, the difference being that the man is not allowed or a second party is not allowed to make any profit out of this transaction.

President.—Is it an explanation?

Dr. A. R. MENON.

The law does not pretend to see it as it stands.

Mr. V. K. KOCHUNNI MENON.

In section 1 it allows. I do not know the authority, which raised it from 16 to 18, to bring them under this protection.

President.—Mr. Ramachandra Ayyar, you understand the point now. Do you still press the amendment?

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

No, Sir, I withdraw.

The amendment was withdrawn with leave.

The President called the remaining clauses and they were agreed to.

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Mr. K. ACHYUTA MENON.

Sir, I beg to move that the Cochin Criminal Law Amendment Bill be taken up and passed at Friday's meeting.

Mr. V. K. ARAVINDAKSHA MENON.

Sir, I beg to second the motion.

The motion was then put to vote and carried.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar's Municipal Regulation Amendment Bill.

President.—The next item of business is Mr. Ikkanda Wariar's Municipal Amendment Bill.

Mr. E. IKKANDA WARIAR.

Sir, I request this House to give me leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Cochin Municipal Regulation.

President.—Anybody seconding the motion?

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

Sir, I second it.

President.—Have you anything to explain?

Mr. A. EACHARA MENON.

Sir, I oppose it.

President.—We have not yet come to that stage. When the motion has been seconded, the mover will state the objects and reasons, and then we can go on with the opposition.

Mr. A. B. SALEM.

Standing Order 38. Then and there the opposition must be made.

President.—We have passed that stage. Let me go on with this statement. Mr. Eachara Menon, you oppose the Municipal Amendment Regulation? Let me ask Mr. Wariar to go on with his statement.

Mr. E. IKKANDA WARIAR.

Permission is given under sections 156 and 172 of the Municipal Regulation to levy license fees for carrying on offensive and dangerous trades from persons carrying on such trades within a distance of three miles from the Municipal limits. I shall first read that section. Section 156 runs thus:—

Purposes for which places may not be used without license.

1. "At any time, not being less than sixty days before the end of a year, the Council may publish by a notification in the Cochin Government Gazette and by beat of drum that after the beginning of the following year no place within Municipal limits

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